

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

Vol. 33 No. 31

Serving the U.S. Army community in Hawaii

August 6, 2004

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News briefly

Purple Heart Monument Dedication

A memorial commemorating the service and sacrifices of veterans who have earned the Purple Heart will be dedicated at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe. The date coincides with the establishment of the original Purple Heart – known then as the Badge of Military Merit – on Aug. 7, 1782, by Gen. George Washington. Ceremonies will be held throughout the country on this year's observance of Purple Heart Day. For more information, call Charles Turner at 833-6655.

Tripler Change of Command

Maj. Gen. Gale S. Pollock will assume command of the Pacific Regional Medical Command and Tripler Army Medical Center during a change of command ceremony at 9 a.m. Aug. 11 at the Tripler softball field.

Lease Signing at Schofield Barracks and AMR

A lease signing party will take place on Schofield Barracks and Aliamanu Military Reservation Aug. 14. Two events will feature food, bounce-houses for the kids, games, and more. Tables will be set up at each location to assist Soldiers and spouses with the paperwork. Spouses with powers of attorneys may sign in the absence of the Soldier. It is critical that all Army Hawaii family housing residents sign their leases. Signing the lease will ensure that families remain authorized for their current house. It also "turns on" the BAH payments to the project that fund ongoing maintenance, new homes and renovations. The leases are what flips the switch on for funding that goes toward the future of Army housing in Hawaii. For more information, call Actus Lend Lease or go to the closest Actus community center.

Deployment Town Hall Meeting

Soldiers who are deploying and their family members can have questions about the deployments answered at a Deployment Town Hall Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 17 at Sgt. Smith Theater on Schofield Barracks.

USARHAW Retirement Ceremony

U.S. Army, Hawaii will conduct a quarterly retirement ceremony at 2 p.m. Aug. 19 in Sgt. Smith Theater at Schofield Barracks to recognize retiring Soldiers for their dedicated service to the U.S. Army and the nation. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Billie Thompson at 655-8711.

Wolfhounds remember fallen comrade



courtesy photo

Spc. Joseph F. Herndon, II, 21, of Derby, Kan., died July 29, in Hawijah, Iraq, when he was shot while on guard duty. He was a member of Co. A, 1st Bn., 27th Infantry Rgt.

By Sharee Moore
Assistant Editor

A 25th Infantry Division (Light) Soldier was killed while on guard duty July 29 in Hawijah, Iraq.

A memorial service was held for Spc. Joseph F. Herndon, an infantryman from Company A, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, at the Schofield Barracks Main Post Chapel on Monday.

After the service, four Soldiers from Herndon's company took a moment to reflect on his short life.

"He was what every Soldier wants to be, he never gave up, he had so much heart and dedication," said Pfc. Lloyd F. Evans, who was in the same platoon as Herndon.

Herndon, 21, was first wounded April 7 in a mortar attack when he was shot in the chest and hit by shrapnel. The incident earned him a Purple Heart.

"He took pride in what he did, he never whined about nothing. I fought with him in April. His team leader was shot and wounded and he helped carry him out. He tried to go back (to help others), but we wouldn't let him go back," Evans whispered.

Herndon earned a second Purple Heart while on patrol, when he was wounded by an improvised explosive device. He didn't have to return to Iraq after he was awarded that sec-

ond medal. But, he chose duty over his personal safety.

"Joe was probably one of the top two Soldiers in my unit. He was a joy to be around," said 1st Lt. Dave Morgan, a platoon leader in Herndon's company.

Morgan was at home when he found out Herndon was killed in action.

"The impact came to me at 5 a.m., July 29th Hawaii time. It was a huge shock," Morgan said. "It was very painful for us because of the caliber of Soldier he was. He was only in the service for two years and he accomplished so much that Soldiers in service for 30 years haven't achieved."

Herndon entered the Army in July 2002, and he was assigned to his unit in Hawaii in November 2002. He quickly moved up the combat ladder of success within his platoon.

"He went from SAW gunner to M203 gunner, or grenadier, for the squad, right below the position to be a team leader," said Morgan. "I was looking forward to seeing him become a leader."

Pfc. Chris Tenayuca was in a different platoon and only knew Herndon a few months, but still spoke highly of the fallen Soldier.

"He was always there if you wanted to talk to someone," said Tenayuca who was wounded in

February. "After I came back (to Schofield Barracks), we would talk about Iraq, and he brought messages from the other Soldiers while he was home on R&R," Tenayuca said.

Herndon and his squad members were on patrol in an area outside the city in northern Iraq, when a single shot was fired. Herndon was mortally wounded in the attack.

Sgt. Chris Bolwell was in Hawaii on R&R when he heard about his friend's death. Herndon, Bolwell and, another friend, Sgt. Andrew Fix used to barbeque and hang out at the beach before the deployment.

"You serve with someone for two years and go to Iraq with them, you get pretty close," said Bolwell. "He's just a great guy and a good friend with the biggest heart in the world. Anything you needed from Joe; he'd give it. And he loved his wife more than anyone in the world," he added.

Despite this tragedy and the dangers that lie on the battlefield, Bolwell looks forward to getting back to Iraq. It's the same dogged determination and loyalty his fallen friend had.

"I want to get back there and take care of the guys," Bolwell said.

"It's hard and I'm mad. Mad at whoever did it (killed Herndon)."

Herndon is the sixth Schofield Barracks Soldier to die since deployments to Iraq started in January.

New flag signifies end of Saddam's reign

By Sgt. Eishaw Meade
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq – Even before it started, the flag ceremony held at the Kirkuk Government building July 25 seemed special for a number of reasons.

The throng of the crowd, the pride on the spectators' faces, the perfect timing of the troops as they march into place. Though a seemingly normal ceremony, the ceremony signified the new liberated Iraq and confirmed the country's sovereignty.

Local and political leaders from Kurdish, Turkish and Arabic ethnic groups, to include the Governor of Kirkuk, were on hand to show their support. Although there is a possibility of confrontation with insurgents, the optimistic crowd is not deterred.

"Saddams' reign is over,"

said Qadir Saeed, a local businessman. "We can not forget our past, but now the time has come to look to the future."

This perhaps is the thought process of many Iraqi's, for the flags that fly in front of the government building are the same design that flew during Saddam's regime.

The flag, adopted in 1921, changed in 1991 when Saddam added the words, "allahu akbar" or "God is Great." With the exception of changing the script to formal Arabic, the red, white, green and black flag remains the same.

"The writing on the flag before was Saddam's handwriting, the new writing called Kofi stands for all Iraqi's," said W.R. Karola, a government employee.

U.S. officials and Coalition Forces were at the

ceremony to show their support. State Department Representative Chat Blakeman and 2nd Brigade Combat Team Commander Col. Lloyd Miles were also present.

"It was a very moving ceremony, to see all the Iraqi political leaders, Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition Forces together," said Blakeman. "It symbolizes the partnership of America and Iraq."

Kirkuk Provincial Council members representing all of the provinces ethnicities assisted in raising the flags.

Command Sgt. Maj. Errol Synder, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt. sergeant major, helps a Kirkuk Provincial council member with a flag during a ceremony at the Kirkuk Government Building July 23.



Sgt. Eishaw Meade

Stabilization now in effect for the force

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Stabilization is now the watchword for personnel managers as they match up Army manpower requirements with where Soldiers are stationed.

Just a recommendation from an Army chief of staff focus area task force a year ago, stabilization went into effect Aug. 1.

Specifically, stabilization means Soldiers will stay at duty stations for longer periods than before.

When first proposed, stabilization was focused on initial-entry soldiers staying at their first duty stations for five to seven years after assignment, rather than the older personnel management system of moving Soldiers from post to post every two to three years. Today, stabilization applies to all continental U.S.-based Soldiers – though it is not fixed to a specific time period, according to Lt. Col. Dave Goehring, assistant to the deputy chief of staff for Plans, Human Resources Command.

"This is about slowing the movement of Soldiers and their families from post to post – allowing them to grow roots in the community," Goehring said. "Of course, Operation Iraqi Freedom will continue to cause turbulence."

Goehring warned that stabilization is not a means of avoiding deployment. If the Soldier's unit gets selected for deployment, the Soldier goes with the unit, but the Soldier can expect to return for duty at the same installation following deployment.

There are three officially approved reasons why

U.S., Australian divers train together

By Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen
Editor

Divers from the U.S. and Australian armies trained together in Hawaii during the last two weeks of July, and are now in Australia for further training.

The training is part of Pacific Bond '04, an annual exercise between the United States and Australia. The Aussies arrived in Hawaii July 16 and trained here with their American counterparts for two weeks, before the two contingents moved to Australia July 29 for two more weeks of training.

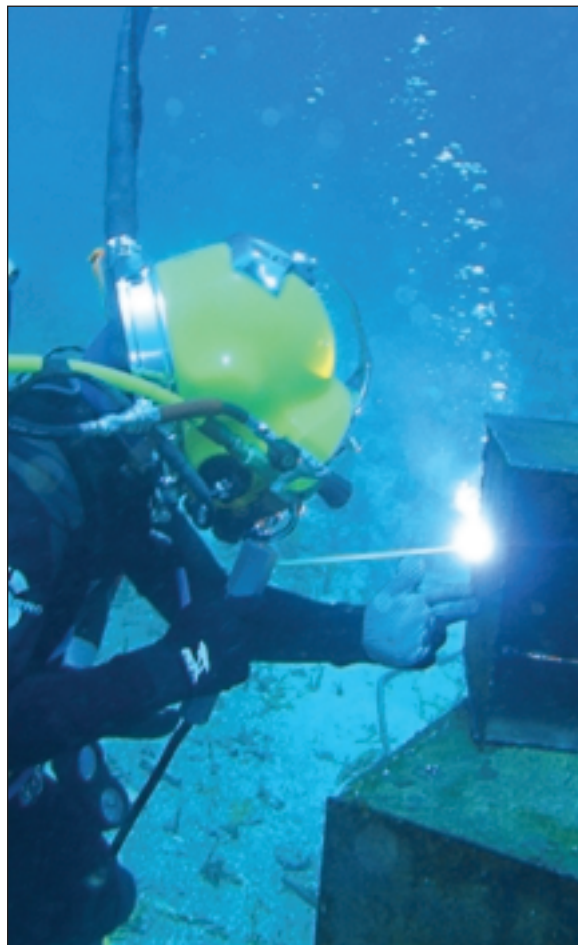
The U.S. divers are from the 7th Engineer Detachment (Dive), which is headquartered at Fort Shafter. The detachment is part of the 29th Engineer Battalion, which falls under the 45th Corps Support Group (Forward).

The Australian divers are from several different engineer units. The Aussies are all combat engineers who use diving as a secondary skill, as opposed to their U.S. counterparts, who are primarily divers.

"The drills we do are similar, but there are slight differences, and the equipment we use is similar, but again there are slight differences," said Capt. Dave Patterson, the commander of the Australian contingent of divers.

Patterson said they have been concentrating on familiarization training with the U.S. diving equipment and a lot of underwater welding tasks. Since diving is a secondary skill for the Australians, they do not do the tasks as frequently as the U.S. divers.

While in Hawaii, the divers conducted surface-supplied deep diving operations, chamber



Courtesy photo

A diver from the 7th Dive Detachment at Fort Shafter practices underwater welding techniques off the coast of Oahu during PACBOND '04.

See "Divers" Page A-8

See "Stabilization" Page A-8

We want to hear from you

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes letters and commentaries from readers. To submit call the editor at 655-4816 or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com. The deadline for articles is the Friday prior to the week of publication. Send all articles in Microsoft Word or text format.

OPINION & COMMENTARY

Iraqi's show ethnic unity

Commentary

1st Sgt. Robert Jennings
Co. A, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt.

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq – This week started out on a positive note, I received an e-mail from Spc. Juan Hernandez. He let me know that he was recovering well at William Beaumont Medical Center in El Paso, Texas. This was a relief to me and the other Soldiers because we had not heard any news on his condition in some time.

Also, we learned Spc. Joseph Salinas returned to Hawaii to finish his therapy at Tripler Army Medical Center. Two out of the four Soldiers evacuated May 2 have returned safely. We just pray the other two will continue to improve on their difficult roads to recovery.

We began the week with a ceremony at the government building to show symbolic unity between the four ethnic groups in the city. One person representing each ethnic group, Arab, Kurdish, Turkemon and Assyrian, raised one flag each side by side officially recognizing the city's stand concerning ethnic diversity, one Iraqi one country.

26 Jul, 2215 hours – Two rockets fly over the patrol base and impact on the airfield. Official damage: rockets impacted in a field no casualties.

This week I was able to meet one of the leaders of a national youth organization that has based its membership on ethnic diversity. This is one of the only organizations in the country that does not focus on ethnicity or political party affiliation. I was able to link them with a non-government organization out of Canada. Together they plan on improving the groups learning centers to focus the young people on a future trade. We were also able to outfit four of their soccer teams with uniforms for the fall league.

27 Jul, 1055 hours – A police officer is gunned down in the street as he was entering his house. The officer later died of his wounds at the local hospital.

We were able to take time out to distribute medical supplies to the Amu Shabi clinic. We purchased an EKG machine, suction machine, and minor surgical tools. We also were able to purchase numerous smaller supplies to include: stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, tongue depressors and anything else for use during routine check ups. This should enhance the ability of this small village to treat minor injuries and conduct checkups they previously had to go to the hospital for. Our next project with the clinic is to supply them with a vehicle to take patients to the hospital. Right now they use a taxi.

While we were there, we inspected work done on their trash collection points around the village. This was one of the major health problems



1st Sgt. Robert Jennings

Sgt. 1st Class Johnson, medical platoon sergeant for Co. A, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Rgt., attracts children while handing out candy.

in the area. There are close to 7,000 people and no place for trash refuse. We contracted for 25 collection areas and cleaned existing trash scattered throughout the area. After we finished our inspection we all agreed that it was a 100 percent improvement.

28 Jul, 1805 hours – We have just received word that two local Iraqi men were killed while trying to emplace a roadside bomb. These have been a major problem for coalition forces and police. Seems like poetic justice to me.

The week ended with another clothes hand-out in one of the outlying areas. We were able to disburse the last of the donations from an organization headed by Mrs. Barbara Sanders. She will be going from Florida to California for surgery this week. From my understanding, we won't be receiving the items she has collected because it was a one woman crusade. Thanks for the work and we're praying for a fast recovery.

31 July 2125 hours – Three rockets are heard whizzing over the patrol base. Three impacts are heard and felt as they struck the airfield. Preliminary report has zero casualties.

This week, meet Spc. Jerimiah Carr, a team leader and designated marksman for the Company Anti Tank Section. He is from West Warwick, R.I., and has been in the Army for two and a half years.

Carr said he expected to find an area full of mud huts and small villages.

"Being in a large city, I see a lot of similarities between these people and Americans," he said. "They do have some strange ways, but all in all they aren't too different.

"I could tell that the people here weren't really sure what to think of us when we first took over," he continued. "But I think we have gained their trust so we seem a lot more welcome."

Carr said the most stressful part of his deployment was the night his squad had to move into an observation post in an area that one of the squads had got into a firefight a few nights before.

"We decided to use the roof of a house that was under construction," he said. "Everything was quiet, but when we were leaving we heard something rustling in the basement. For a few seconds I could feel my heart pounding against my ballistic vest. We moved carefully down the stairs and found a stray dog rummaging through some discarded trash."

Carr said the funniest thing so far, was what one of the interpreters said.

"He said that he was talking to some old Iraqi Army guys and they were talking about U.S. Soldiers," Carr said. "They thought we could take a pill that made our body cool so we could fight in the heat. He said this because they would shoot at us and we would keep coming after them. He also said that they thought our night vision goggles were x-ray goggles. They wouldn't try to hide any weapons on themselves because they thought they would get caught."

He finished his interview by saying hi to his mom Kathyryne, stepfather Jim, and brother and his wife, Josh and Melinda in West Warrick. He also wanted to say hi to his father Jim in Cranston, R.I., and brother, Tom in Lowell, Mass.

Too much color on Soldiers' uniforms

Commentary

Michael Norris
Fort Myer, Va.

There's this Bill Cosby routine that has the two sides in the Revolutionary War flipping a coin to decide the parameters of combat as if it were a pickup football game.

"Okay, our team gets to wear street clothes and shoot from behind parapets," says the representative for American settlers, "And you guys have to wear bright red jackets and stay in formation," he adds, indicating the British red-coats.

I keep thinking of that skit as I try to become accustomed to the American flag patch Soldiers now wear on their uniform.

Yes, it's a grand old flag, and I can get the shivers thinking of the sacrifices made to keep her flying. But is the red, white and blue really an appropriate addition to camouflage clothing?

On dress uniforms perhaps, but aren't the colors a little too vivid to place on BDUs, which by necessity are designed to blend into the landscape?

I'm as patriotic as anyone, but doesn't this invite trouble?

When I first moved to the District I almost bought a t-shirt emblazoned with an actual target, based on a broad-brushed painting by pop artist Jasper Johns (who also knows a thing or two about flags).

After walking around the store some, I thought better of my choice, deciding it wouldn't be the wisest choice in my new, not quite regenerated neighborhood where the discharge of weapons by dealers was not unheard of.

And isn't that what the flag patch will become, a metaphorical target? I mean it's not as if you can't tell which team are the Americans on the battleground for want of an identifying shoulder patch.

I guess it's a done deal. It started out as a talisman indicating overseas service. Since it's been extended Army-wide to non-deployed Army troops, it has lost its meaning.

Researchers should begin drafting studies now, that will tabulate an anticipated uptick in shoulder wounds.

According to an Army News Service article published in February, the flag is worn on the right shoulder to give the effect it is flying in the breeze as the wearer moves forward. It's supposed to serve as a reminder that the nation is at war.

And as Soldiers are picked off one-by-one in Iraq, Afghanistan and a host of other countries where America's presence is resented, it may come to symbolize just how vulnerable we are.

(Editor's note: Norris is assistant editor of Pentagon newspaper at Fort Myer, Va.)

Voices of Lightning

Do you think pet owners act responsibly on USARHAW installations?



"Dog owners, for the most part, yes. I see people walking their dogs with their bags and cleaning up after them. Cats, no. I see a lot of cats wandering around without collars. The installation seems tougher on dogs."

Staff Sgt. Eric Irwin
HHC, DISCOM



"No, I don't have pets, and people let their dogs go (to the bathroom) in my yard. People have to be responsible for their pets. I get angry when people don't clean up after their animals."

Regina Hale
Family Member



"No, I am an MP and I see a lot of dog neglect while on patrols. I have seen animals left outside with no water and dogs outside on small length chains."

Spc. Ahmad Peterson
13th MP Det.



"No, I don't. Dogs are always running around loose and cats are everywhere. Dogs poop anywhere they want, and most cat owners don't keep cats in their homes."

Nicole Prue
Family Member



"I don't live on post, but yes, I think they do act responsibly. I have seen people cleaning up after their pets, and dogs on leashes, but I think cats need to be leashed too."

Sgt. Sherina Ross
HHC, DISCOM



"You can't put everyone who owns a pet in the same category. I guess the answer is 50-50. I know some people who take great care with their pets and I know some who don't."

Jacklyn Turley
Family Member

The Hawaii Army Weekly is an authorized newspaper and is published in the interest of the U.S. Army community in Hawaii.

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HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

exclusive written agreement with the U.S. Army, Hawaii.

The Hawaii Army Weekly is published weekly using the offset method of reproduction and has a printed circulation of 15,300.

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Corps of Engineers recruiting for Iraq

By Denver Beaulieu-Hains
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – The Army Corps of Engineers is recruiting Soldiers who are leaving the Army, retired military, family members and Department of Defense civilians to work in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Corps now has 328 civilian positions to fill in Iraq and Afghanistan. The goal is to have all of the positions filled by December, if not sooner, officials said.

“We’re pulling out the stops to try to recruit people,” said Shelia Dent, chief of the Corps’ employment and compensation management division. “The Corps is using every hiring tool at its disposal, including recruitment bonuses, hardship pay, direct hiring authority, and dual compensation waivers to entice Soldiers leaving the Army, and retired federal employees back to work.

Since the war on terrorism began, the Corps has deployed about 2,000 personnel.

Pat Burgess, National Emergency Program Manager for the Corps’ South Atlantic Division, said she volunteered to deploy to Iraq because she wanted to do something different and add to the mission. Burgess has spent eight months in Kuwait and Iraq during two separate tours.

“I’m an adrenaline junkie, and I’m in the twi-

light of my career,” said Burgess, who has 35 years of federal service and is eligible for retirement. “I felt I needed to do one more good thing in my career before I retired. I wanted to utilize my operational background – to see how the work I do in rear support serves at the other end.”

Before joining the Corps, Pat Burgess worked as a reserve mobilization specialist for the U.S. Army Reserve Command. She had ample opportunity to see the relationship between stateside planning and overseas execution, but never had the opportunity to deploy personally.

“We believe there are Soldiers who may be leaving the military, retired military, and even family members who have critical skills and experiences that make them a perfect fit for some of the positions we’re filling,” Dent said.

“Most people don’t realize, out of the 300 personnel in theater, there are only about four-dozen U.S. military noncommissioned officers and officers working for the Corps in Iraq,” said Maj. Gen. Ronald Johnson, the first commander of the Corps’ Gulf Region Division. During a recent interview with the Fox television network, Johnson credited the Corps’ success to its civilian volunteers, which is the much larger population.

“The civilians are making a great sacrifice, and they are making a difference,” Johnson said.

Employees of the GRD in Iraq are improving the oil infrastructure, power supply, water resources infrastructure, hospitals, education, roads, and bridges – all the things needed to build a strong society. The Corps also supports the military by constructing buildings and facilities.

In Afghanistan, the Afghanistan Engineer District is building new structures including power, water, sewage, barracks, and other facilities for the Afghan National Army, and repairing runways and base camp improvements for the coalition military. They are also providing technical and quality assurance support to the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The Corp is recruiting engineers, engineer technicians, program and project managers, resource managers, accountants, contracting officers, auditors, administrative support staff, and safety and health officials. Other openings include logistics, and information technology.

To find out more information or apply with the Army Corps of Engineers, a link is available on the Army’s Civilian Personnel Online Web site at www.CPOL.army.mil, which provides employment opportunities.

For more information, contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers human resources office by e-mail at CEHEC-CP@hq02.usace.army.mil or call (202) 761-



Spc. Daniel P. Kelly

Pfc. Patricia Lopez and Pfc. Joshua Thompson, automated logistical specialists with Co. C, 25th Aviation Intermediate Maintenance, stock small aircraft parts in a warehouse at Bagram Air Field.

Wheeler Soldiers receive DA Supply Excellence Awards

By Spc. Daniel P. Kelly
CJTF-76 Public Affairs Office

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Army Aviation is an integral ingredient in the War on Terror in Afghanistan. Without Soldiers flying helicopters to transport gas, food, water and all means of supply, the mission could halt.

Without Soldiers trained to ensure helicopters are in their best form, the mission would fall short.

Soldiers of Company B, 193rd Aviation, Hawaii National Guard, and Co. C, 25th Aviation Intermediate Maintenance from Wheeler Army Air Field are keeping combat aviators flying in Afghanistan, and both won Department of the Army Supply Excellence Awards.

Soldiers of Co. B, 193rd won first place in the small TDA division for Air National Guard, and Co. C, 25th AIM won second place in the same category, but for active duty units.

Maj. Roger Pukahi, com-

mander of Co. B, 193rd attributed the success of his unit to the Soldiers.

“I feel proud that the Army is recognizing our Soldiers,” Pukahi said. “I’m happy for the Soldiers. They work hard in maintaining the standard. We challenged them, and they stepped up.”

Maj. David A. George, Co. C, 25th AIM commander, is proud of his Soldiers as well.

“It’s a great achievement,” he said. “It is outstanding to recognize our Soldiers work.”

Although both units were at Wheeler Army Air Field and not in Afghanistan when they competed for the award, one Soldier serving in Operation Enduring Freedom said he is very proud of the unit’s accomplishment.

“This is a big deal to me,” said Spc. Ronald Tuch, stock control noncommissioned officer in charge at the supply warehouse on Bagram Air Field. “I had only been in the Army a lit-

tle over a year when we had the competition. I think it’s a big accomplishment for us new Soldiers.”

As if being new to the Army at the time of the competition wasn’t hard enough for Tuch, his company’s warehouse was inspected four months ahead of schedule.

Tuch’s superiors are sending him to Washington, D.C., to accept the award on behalf of the company for his main role in winning in the Army-wide competition.

Tuch’s supervisor and accountable officer for the warehouse, Sgt. 1st Class Todd Buckner, said his Soldiers’ efforts show every day.

“We won this award because we showed how our operation is run by the regulation on a daily basis,” he said.

From lug nuts to rotor blades, DA award-winning Soldiers of Co. B, 193rd and Co. C, 25th AIM continue to keep helicopters in Afghanistan mission-ready and flying.



Courtesy photo

Josette Pullen, a geographic information systems specialist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, studies diagrams of the Iraqi oil pipeline system with the director general of the Iraqi Pipeline Company in his Baghdad office. The Corps is now recruiting to fill more than 300 positions in Iraq.

Briefs

Big Blow Out At Crossroads Coffeehouse Tonight – Recording artist Greg Dahl and his band will be hosting his final concert on the island at the Crossroads Coffeehouse, tonight at 7:30 p.m. It promises to be a huge night at the Coffeehouse; everyone is welcome. The coffeehouse is located at the Ka'ala Recreation Center, Schofield Barracks and the concert is sponsored by the post chapels. The event is free and open to all ages. Refreshments will be served. Call Chaplain Conway at 655-9355 for information.

Hui O Na Wahine Membership and Community Sign-up Night – The Hui O' Na Wahine, an all ranks club for women on Schofield Barracks, will hold its community membership and activities sign-up night from 5 to 8 p.m. Aug. 27 at the Nehelani on Schofield Barracks. More than 50 vendors and community organizations will attend. Anyone interested in being a vendor should call Amy Snyder at 624-4989. Anyone interested in becoming a Hui member, annual membership cost is \$20 for E-6 and below, and \$25 for E-7 and above. Membership includes a monthly magazine, membership directory and invitation to monthly events.

Cub Scout Joining Night – The Cub Scouts of Pack 197, supporting families residing on Aliamanu Military Reservation, invite all families with boys in 1st through 5th grades to attend "Joining Night" on Sept. 11 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Mokulele Elementary School cafeteria. The purpose of this event is to provide AMR families an opportunity to

learn about the Cub Scouts and to join Pack 197. For more information, call Bob Hoelscher at 833-7623 or e-mail rhoelscher@hawaii.rr.com.

Interviewing Techniques – Does your stomach knot up when you think about going for an interview? Learn some hints and basic interviewing skills to be the best candidate for the job. The workshop will be held on Sept. 9 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Army Community Service classroom in building 2091, Schofield Barracks. Call ACS at 655-2400 for information.

Hui O Na Wahine Thrift Shop Now Open – Hours of operation are Tuesdays and Thursdays and the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignment hours are from 9 a.m. to noon. The thrift shop is in building 2107, located behind Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks. There is a box located behind the building where donations can be dropped off at any time. Come check out all the prices on furniture, clothing, shoes, linens, and more. Call the thrift shop at 624-3254 for information.

Networking and Salary Negotiation – Have you wondered how people get the best jobs with great salaries? A Networking and Salary Negotiation Workshop will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Aug. 12 at Army Community Service, building 2091, on Schofield Barracks. Get information on different resources that can be accessed to see if your salary requirements are comparative to qualifications you hold. For more information or to register, call 655-2400.

22nd Annual MI Ball – The 22nd annual Military

Intelligence Ball will take place Aug. 20 at the Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel. Tickets are \$45. Call Staff Sgt. Mclean, 655-5360 or Pfc. Booth, 655-9575 for information.

Women's Equality Day Celebration – The 10th Annual Women's Equality Day Celebration will be held at 7 a.m. Aug. 28 at Stoneman Field on Schofield Barracks. There will be a 5k Fun Run, a 1-mile Keiki Run, a guest speaker, keiki activities and information booths. Call 655-3578 or 655-8389 for more information or for a race application.

New Hours of the Fort Shafter Vehicle Registration Office – Effective Aug. 9, the public can register or unregister vehicles, weapons, and bicycles at the Fort Shafter Vehicle Registration Office, building 1599, Fort Shafter Flats during the following hours: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Registration and unregistration services will not be available on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and federal holidays. Call 438-1092 for information.

Free Basic Skills Course – Brush up on math and reading, get ready for college and improve GT scores with a free basic skills course offered by the 9th RSC at Fort Shafter Flats. Courses are 60 hours each. They will be held Aug. 12 to Sept. 30, and Oct. 21 to Dec. 13. All classes are held 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 105, building 1554, Fort Shafter Flats. Call 438-1600 Ext. 3293; or e-mail education@9rsc.army.mil for more information.

EFMP Summer Pool Parties – Exceptional Family Member Program

families from all services are invited to attend a free summer fun program designed to meet their special needs. Army Community Service EFMP will be hosting an afternoon of fun at the Schofield Barracks pool from noon to 4 p.m. Aug. 14. Hot dogs, salads, ice cream, shaved ice, pinatas and much more will be available. EFMP enrollment and advanced registration is required. Reservations must be made through an EFMP coordinator by Aug. 9 for the Schofield Barracks party. Army EFMP families must call 655-2303 or 655-2324 for reservations. Call the Army EFMP manager at 655-2303 for more information.

American Red Cross CPR Class – The Red Cross will hold a CPR class from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Aug. 28 at the Schofield Barracks Red Cross Office. This course will cover adult, infant and child CPR, First Aid and AED. The cost for military ID cardholders is \$53. For more information or to register, call the Red Cross office at 655-4927.

All Army sports application deadlines – Here are the deadlines for the following 2004 All Army Sports: Men's soccer - Aug. 12. Men's and Women's All Army 10 Miler team - Aug. 23. (This team will compete in a separate international running division for world-class military teams). 2005 All Army Sports deadlines are as follows: Men's and women's bowling - Nov. 1. Men's and women's boxing - Nov. 12. Men's and women's wrestling - Nov. 24. Cross country - Nov. 29. Applications (DA Form 4762-R, Jan 01) must be submitted through the USAG-HI, CRD Sports Office, Kaala Recreation Center, Building 556, Schofield Barracks.

Applications are available at all Army Hawaii Physical Fitness Centers. Athletes obtaining the application on Form Flow must ensure it is the updated Jan. 01 edition. Earlier editions are not accepted by DA Sports and will be returned to sender. Failure to make the event deadline due to return of application or resubmission lies with the applicant. Call 655-9914 for more information.

"Golden Knights" Tryouts – The U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights" is currently accepting applications to attend its annual Assessment and Selection Program in September. A downloadable version of the application is available on the Golden Knights' web site: www.armygoldenknights.com. To become a Golden Knight applicants must have a minimum of 150 freefall parachute jumps, a flawless civilian and military record and volunteer to become Airborne qualified. Applications are now being accepted, packets can be sent to the U.S. Army Parachute Team P.O. Box 70126, Fort Bragg, NC 28307. Call the Golden Knight administration office at 910-396-4800 for information.

205th MI Bn. Activation Ceremony – The 205th Military Intelligence Battalion will conduct an activation ceremony at 10 a.m. Oct. 1 at Palm Circle on Fort Shafter. The ceremony will begin with the deactivation of Headquarters and Headquarters Operations Company, followed by the activation of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Company A and Company C. In the case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be conducted in the Fort Shafter Physical

Fitness Center.

Protestant Women of the Chapel – Protestant Women of the Chapel at Schofield Barracks welcomes all military spouses to their weekly Bible study and time of fellowship. Meetings are held each Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. in room D-9 of the Main Post Chapel on Schofield Barracks. Pre-arranged on-site child care is provided. Call Effie at 624-8251 for more information. For child care, call Sonya at 455-4011.

Boating Class Offered – Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 18 is offering a class on how to read nautical charts at the McDonald's Uptown party room at Pearlridge Mall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The cost is \$35 and includes a manual and exams. This course meets U.S. Coast Guard, state and national boating law administrators' requirements. The course includes the use of aids to navigation, nautical measurements, significance of various symbols, abbreviations and terms. Send check payable to: USCG AUX F-118; Kawika Warren; 23 Kimo Drive; Honolulu, HI 96817. For more information, call Kawika Warren at 595-4934.

Apheresis Center Open – The Schofield Barracks Apheresis Center, located in Bldg. 679, is open for collections. Apheresis (cell separation) is a specialized automated blood collection method. The center is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and appointments can be made by calling 433-8810/6195. Contact the Apheresis Center for more information, a demonstration or to schedule an appointment. The Tripler Army Medical Center Mobile Team visits the center on select Fridays to collect whole blood donations. Contact the center for dates and times.

Sapper tab authorized for uniform wear

By Bernard Tate
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – A new Sapper tab for combat engineers is now authorized for wear by qualified Soldiers on their left shoulder.

Until this summer, only the Special Forces tab and the Ranger tab were authorized for wear above the unit patch on the left shoulder.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker approved the Sapper tab June 28 for award and wear by engineer Soldiers who complete the Sapper Leader Course. The course is part of the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. This award is retroactive back to the graduates of the first SLC on June 14, 1985.

The tab will be worn below the Special Forces or Ranger tab, if a Soldier has either of those. Other details concerning the wear of the Sapper tab will be released through official G-1and Human Resources Command channels sometime in the next 90 days, officials said.

Sappers are combat engineers



U.S. Army photo

The new Sapper tab is now authorized for wear on the uniform's left shoulder above the unit patch.

who advance with the front-line infantry, and they have fought in every war in American history.

For example, they played a vital role in securing Omaha Beach on D-Day, and that incident is faithfully re-created in the movie Saving Private Ryan.

The invading Soldiers were unable to advance through the beach obstacles, and were pinned down by the German machine

guns. A group of combat engineers crawled forward under heavy fire. Despite their casualties, they assembled a bangalore torpedo (a long tube filled with explosives), slid it under a barbed wire obstacle, and blew the obstacle apart.

The Soldiers behind the engineers then fought their way through the gap, took the German defenses, and won the battle.

The Sapper Leader Course is a

fast-paced 28-day course designed to train joint-service leaders in small unit tactics, leadership skills, and warfighter tactics required to perform as part of a combined arms team in a contemporary operating environment.

The SLC is open to enlisted Soldiers in the grades of specialist (promotable) and above, and engineer officers captain and below.

Phase I of the course lasts 14 days and covers general subjects including medical techniques, land navigation, demolitions (conventional and expedient), air and water operations, mountaineering, expedient antennas, knots and rigging, and land mines used by enemy forces.

Phase II is also 14 days. It covers basic patrolling techniques and battle drills that emphasize leadership. The subjects include urban operations, breaching, patrol organization and movement, recon, raid, and ambush tactics.

The second phase of the SLC concludes with a three-day situation training exercise, and five-day field

training exercise. Training missions conducted during the STX/FTX are a 60/40 mix of engineer and infantry missions. Engineer missions include bridge reconnaissance and demolition, covert obstacle breaching, road cratering, minefields, and field expedient demolition.

Leadership is emphasized throughout the SLC, engineer officials said. During Phase I the leadership positions are rotated daily.

During Phase II, the position of squad leader is rotated daily, and the patrol leader and assistant patrol leader after each phase of the mission. Each Soldier will be evaluated at least twice on leadership during patrolling.

The results of the Sapper Leader Course are Soldiers who are worthy to wear the new Sapper tab, officials said, adding that they are hardened combat engineers who are qualified to fight and lead on today's battlefields.

(Editor's note: Bernard Tate is a public affairs staff member of the headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.)

Army moving equipment from Korea to Iraq

By Maj. Terry Draper
Army News Service

PUSAN, Korea – The Army has begun moving equipment from the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea for duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The vessels Cape Hudson and Cape Horn are now carrying the equipment of the unit's 2nd Brigade to Southwest Asia.

The vessels were loaded simultaneously during the last week in July by transporters with the 837th Transportation Battalion, in Pusan, Korea.

The Surface Deployment and Distribution unit loaded 1,700 pieces of cargo aboard the ships for use by the brigade's 3,600 Soldiers.

As part of the deployment, the 837th transporters loaded 80 containers of ammunition at the Chinhae Ammunition Pier aboard the Cape Inscription. The loading was assisted by Korean Navy sailors from the base.

The movement of troops deployed in Korea to another hot spot in the world is unprecedented in the half-century American military presence in Korea. The troops represent about 10 percent of United States military forces in Korea. Upon the completion of their tour in Iraq, the Soldiers will return to the United States.

"As a whole, this is one of the most successful deployments this theater has seen in some time," said Lt. Col. Rich Kramer, 837th commander. "From the United States Forces Korea staff down to the deploying unit, I couldn't be happier with the

support and coordination provided to this operation.

"Everyone learned a lot and without the teamwork, this operation wouldn't have been executed as smoothly as it was."

The transporters were supported by Soldiers with the 20th Area Support Group and the 1-38th Field Artillery Battalion.

Teamwork and coordination was praised by Capt. Chris Wolfe, 837th operations officer.

"Everyone knew their responsibilities," said Wolfe. "Together, we worked to provide a quick, safe and efficient upload operation for 2nd Brigade's equipment."

NCOs said advance planning was essential for the mission's success.

"This was a great opportunity to assist the deploying unit on all facets of deployment operations and it gave the battalion a chance to conduct the harder tasks of deploying a unit rather than receiving a unit," said Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Sprague, 837th operations NCO.

Sprague is one of a number of the battalion's Soldiers who will see the operation at both ends. A number of 837th personnel will be reassigned to work at SDDC Southwest Asia, at the port of Ash Shuiaba, Kuwait.

Soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division will arrive in Southwest Asia in September to fall in on the equipment aboard the Cape Hudson and Cape Horn.

(Editor's note: Maj. Terry Draper is the executive officer for the 837th Transportation Battalion in Pusan, Korea.



Military equipment staged at Pier 8, Pusan, Korea, awaits movement to Southwest Asia.

Courtesy photo

Tropic Lightning aviation Soldiers keep aircraft flying

Staff Sgt. Twana Atkinson
CJTF-76 Public Affairs Office

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Soldiers deployed to southern Afghanistan deal with daily temperatures in the low 100s and howling sand storms. The heat and sand also do a number on the Soldiers’ equipment.

But the Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment have found a successful way to keep their aircraft up to par to help support the variety of missions they must perform.

“After about a couple of weeks here, we finally figured out a system to the madness,” said Staff Sgt. Gloria Cain, the maintenance platoon sergeant. “Now, we conduct 24-hour maintenance.”

The heat and dirt have caused major problems to the aircraft’s engines and blades. The Soldiers have invented several techniques to prevent the damage and prolong the lifecycle of their equipment.

The Soldiers have found that flushing the engines more often keeps the dirt out of the pistons and applying paint to the blades will keep them operational.

“We try to use a lot of preventive measures and go with the flow,” said Cain.

These aircraft also conduct more missions than expected, which adds to the frequent malfunctions.

“Sometimes we have four to five aircraft down in a day to push out,” said Cain.

These hard working maintenance Soldiers replace engines, hydraulic



Cpl. Danny Gomez from Co. D, 2nd Bn., 25th Aviation Rgt., performs daily scheduled maintenance on a UH-60 MEDEVAC helicopter at Kandahar Air Field.

pumps and auxiliary Power unit accumulators daily, while maintaining up to 20 aircraft to support missions for Operation Enduring Freedom.

“We do all of our maintenance in accordance with the technical manuals, but the Soldiers are doing it all,” said Cain. “ That’s how we are doing so well with our mission because they (Soldiers) care about the mission.”

Leadership backs absentee voter registration

By Darsi J. Busler
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – “It’s your future – vote for it.”

This is the message from the Army’s top leaders as they take starring roles in public service announcements to encourage Soldiers to fill out absentee voter registration forms by Aug. 15.

Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston took time Tuesday to film television ads for the Army’s Voting Assistance Program that will air on the Pentagon Channel, American Forces networks overseas and local command channels beginning the week of Aug. 9.

Gen. Peter Schoomaker, chief of staff of the Army, is scheduled to film a third PSA.

The Aug. 15 deadline to vote absentee, enables Soldiers deployed overseas to receive their ballots in September and have them sent out by Oct. 11 to reach

their home states by election day, Nov. 2, said Jim Davis, the Army’s voting assistance officer.

Preston knows first-hand the importance of registering for absentee voting.

“I’ve been a Soldier for almost 30 years and have never had the chance to vote in my home state of Maryland,” he said.

The Army wants to make sure all Soldiers are provided with the opportunity to register and cast their ballot. In May, an e-mail was sent to 1.3 million AKO users, reminding them of the importance of this and the details of how to do so, said Davis.

To apply for an absentee ballot, Soldiers must fill out the federal postcard application, standard form 76, which can be found at the Federal Voting Assistance Program’s Web site or from a voting action officer, said Davis.

If Soldiers located outside the United States send in their request for an absentee

ballot in sufficient time and don’t receive their ballot, they can use the federal write-in absentee ballot (SF 186), which allows them to write in their votes and send it in by the deadline.

All but three states require absentee ballots by close of business the day of the election. Louisiana requires the ballots to be in by midnight before the election. New York absentee ballots need to be postmarked the day before the election. North Carolina requires the ballots to be in by 5 p.m. the day before the election.

Brownlee recognizes the roles Soldiers play in the voting process.

“As a Soldier you have a duty to fight. As a citizen, you have the right to vote. Now it’s time for you to exercise that right,” he said.

For more information on federal voting policies, go to the Federal Voting Assistance Program’s Web site at www.fvap.gov.



Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

The High Speed Vessel USAV Joint Venture docked at Ford Island July 26 after returning from the Big Island.

Experimental vessel carries Strykers druing visit to Hawaii

By Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen
Editor

When the Army displayed Stryker vehicles for the public on Oahu and the Big Island last week, it used an experimental transport vessel that may well be the wave of the future.

The USAV Joint Venture, an Army High Speed Vessel, ferried the Strykers from Oahu to the Big Island and back. Each trip took about six and half hours, about one-third of the time it takes for a Logistics Support Vessel to make the trip.

The ship is a 96-meter, wave-piercing catamaran. It was built by the International Catamaran Corporation in Tasmania, Australia.

The U.S. Army is leasing the vessel to decide if it is the route the Army wants to use for transportation in the future, according to Chief Warrant Officer 3 Gerald Splitt, the Joint Venture's 3rd mate.

U.S. Army Pacific has leased the Joint Venture for about a year, Splitt said, and in that time, it has participated in exercises such as Cobra Gold, Foal Eagle and Freedom Banner.

"We've been taking part in exercises just to show the capabilities of the ship, and basically to sell it to the Army communities and show this is what transportation can do," Splitt said.

The Joint Venture has 14,000 square feet of cargo

space. Depending on vehicle configuration, it could transport up to 40 Strykers. It can also be used to transport Black Hawk helicopters or a wide range of other equipment.

Splitt said the HSV can go 36 knots while an LSV can go 10 and a half to 11 knots. In fact, he said the HSV was designed to go as fast as 46 knots, but they rarely, if ever, take it that fast.

Although they have a similar mission, the HSV will not replace the LSV, because they do, in fact, have different roles, Splitt said.

"[The HSV] is more of an inter-theater asset, where the LSV is an intra-theater asset," Splitt said. "We can take the LSV, load it up with equipment and take it to Korea, and it'll take a little bit longer. With the HSV, once we get to a safe area, we can insert the equipment real fast."

Splitt said you can't really compare the HSV to any other ship in the Army's inventory. The main difference about the HSV is that everything on board is electronic, he said.

"You can go as far as docking the ship by cameras – you don't even look over the side as you would on a conventional ship," Splitt said.

Another of the Army's experimental catamarans, the Theater Support Vessel USAV Spearhead, recently transported a shipment of up-armored Humvees to

Kuwait. It took the Spearhead about 17 days to get from the East Coast of the United States to Kuwait – about half the time it would take an LSV to make the same trip.

Splitt said the major difference between the HSV and the TSV is that the HSV has a flight deck that can land Black Hawk and Chinook helicopters. In fact, the Joint Venture is the only ship in the Army with a flight deck.

The Joint Venture recently made history when two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters landed aboard it in the Yellow Sea March 25. Before that landing, it had been more than 30 years since the last Army helicopter landed onboard an Army ship.

Sgt. Michael Griffin, a navigator for the Joint Venture, said working on the Joint Venture is the best job he's had so far in his Army career.

"I think it's a lot better because you get to the place you're going a lot faster, you conduct the mission and then you come back once the mission is complete," he said. "We've done in six months what it would take two or three years to do on an LSV."

Griffin, who was a combat engineer before reclassifying to his current job, said he thinks the Army should invest in the HSV in the future.

"I'd like to see the Army go this way – it's faster and more efficient," he said.

TF Logistics restructures theater support

By John Runyan
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – A Task Force Logistics conference July 28-30 at Fort Lee, Va., asked operations officers from the field to provide their take on the new Theater Sustainment Command.

This conference was the most recent phase of Task Force Logistics' design of a new organizational structure that will help the Army be more effective and efficient in its battlefield operations, officials said.

"We're bringing in the best and brightest from the field to get the fields' expertise," said Col. John Wharton, Task Force Logistics deputy.

Field attendees include operations officers from major military commands, the current theater support commands, and joint commands, Wharton said. The invited joint commands represented a push to involve all the services in the development of the joint-capable TSC.

"Certainly (Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker) has made it clear that he is a joint Soldier first," Wharton said.

The changes in logistics have been in the making since February when the chief of staff approved the separate focus area task force for logistics.

The new TSC will eliminate layering of commands by combining operational level functions of the current corps support command and the theater support command, officials said.

"(Theater Sustainment Command) is going to work on (eliminating) redundancy and maximizing flexibility," said Maj Chris Stolz, Task Force Logistics operations officer. "We want to maximize throughput by knowing demands and tailoring to the needs of the units of actions."

TSC will be a modular organization with a standard headquarters and subordinate support units tailored for the mission requirements of specific operations. Modular subordinate units will provide capabilities for theater opening; theater distribution; medical; petroleum, oils and lubricants; aviation, civil engineering and multifunctional supply, maintenance and transportation support.

Wharton emphasized the collaboration with CASC

to develop new standard requirement codes, known as (SRCs, that are associated with tables of organization. He said SRC teams as small as one or two Soldiers will be able to provide support based on their specific capabilities. Currently, a whole unit would be required to be mobilized to provide support for a job that could be done by a few.

TSC will work under the new unit of employment operational headquarters known as the UEy, with the TSC commander serving as the senior Army logistics commander in the UEy. TSC headquarters will provide command and control of assigned, attached and operationally controlled units.

Sustainment brigades will provide support to operational-level units in the UEy's area of operations and sustainment support to tactical-level forces engaged in combat in forward areas. This will allow throughput of critical sustainment, like fuel and ammunition, from the theater logistics hubs at ports to brigade units of action engaged in combat, Stolz said

Right now, both COSCOM and TSC have to funnel supplies and services through different layers of management before getting to Soldiers in the rear and forward of the battle areas. With the new technology, trucks will be able to transport materiel right from the ports to the brigade or units of action where they are needed, officials said.

Eventually, predictive technology will even be able to tell where units of action will be and what they will need, officials said. They said, consequently, UAs will have their necessary supplies even sooner. This technology is still in the conceptual phase, officials added, but said the prediction will take into account the operational environment of the units and anticipate their needs, Stolz said.

The big difference is in the way that the logistics systems will operate, according to Stolz. He called the present systems "stove-piped systems" that do not talk to each other. The emerging systems have integrated communications, Stolz said. This means that the logistics information system will receive all requirements and the computer network will show that.

"The big difference is everybody will see what everyone else sees," Stolz said. In the past units could only see what affected their specific segment, he said. With integrated communications, it will be possible to look down the entire pipeline and speed the process by prioritization and reallocation, Stolz said.

The objective is to get rid of the layering of commands and redundant combat services support activities to get the necessary services to the field, Stolz said.

"The Soldier is going to see that he or she is not going to have to ask for the same thing two or three times," Stolz said. "Soldiers will see shortened echelons of support, but the support that is forward with them is much more robust."

The goal is have much more rapidly deployed equipment and the way to do that is through visibility to the Soldier and the command, Stolz said. The command will be able to know where the Soldier is and what he or she needs and the Soldier will know when he or she will be receiving the supplies needed.

"We are going to have Amazon.com type of visibility," Stolz said, explaining that Soldiers will know the status of their orders and have confidence in when they will arrive.

TF Logistics is working with the Army Logistics community (Army Staff, the Army Materiel Command, the Army theater support commands) to develop the required capabilities based upon tasks, functions, and missions. Collaboration includes work with the Joint Forces Command and several regional combatant commands according to Stolz.

"Everybody knows we have to do this, everybody wants to see it done and everybody is working to get it done as quickly as possible," Stolz said.

The new modular structure is underway with brigade combat teams and the 3rd Infantry Division which now has four units of action, Stolz said. He said it's now imperative is to implement an end-to-end distribution system that can support the modular Army. TF Logistics hopes to have 80 percent of the TSC design in place no later than Sept. 30, Wharton said.

Have a great story you'd like to submit?

Hawaii
Army Weekly

email the editor at
editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

'Go For Broke' Reservists mobilize with Hawaii National Guard

By Joe Burlas and John Runyan
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – One of the Army's most decorated units and the Army Reserve's only ground combat unit is prepping for mobilization and eventual deployment to Iraq.

The 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, Army Reserve, will round out the Hawaii National Guard's 29th Infantry Brigade as it mobilizes Aug. 16 and moves to Fort Bliss, Texas, by the end of the month for deployment training, per Department of Defense mobilization orders signed July 16.

The Army Reserve primarily consists of combat service and combat service support units. Other than the 100th Inf. Bn., the only other combat unit in the Army Reserve is an attack aviation unit based in the New England area.

The 100th Inf. Bn. has units in Guam, American Samoa and Saipan.

The 29th Infantry Brigade, the largest unit in the Hawaii National Guard, is headquartered on Oahu.

The timing of the 100th Inf. Bn. mobilization order was fortunate as it was already scheduled for its annual training in Hawaii -- allowing "Go For Broke" Soldiers to undergo a Soldier

Readiness check, said Howard Sugai, spokesman for the 9th Regional Readiness Command. Those checks include personnel, training and medical administrative reviews of individual records, to ensure each Soldier is prepared for deployment.

The 100th Inf. Bn. of the 442nd draws its lineage from World War II's 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It conducted combat operations in the European theater during the war.

The 100th was the first all-Japanese-American combat unit and was made up of mostly National Guardsmen from Hawaii. They were already fighting in Italy when the also mostly Japanese-American 442nd was formed. The 442nd joined the 100th in Italy in June of 1944 and by August, the 100th had become the first battalion of the 442nd.

Since their first action in World War II, Soldiers of the 442nd not only acquired the motto "Go for Broke," but also more than 18,000 individual decorations. Among the 18,000 are 33 Distinguished Service Crosses, 559 Silver Stars, 28 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Silver Star, 4,000 Bronze Stars and 1,200 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Bronze Star and nearly 9,500 Purple Hearts. The 442nd was also recognized with a Presidential Unit Citation



Army Center for Military History file photo

Japanese-American infantrymen of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team hike up a muddy French road in the Chambois Sector, France, in late 1944.

eight times.

Until 2000, the achievements of 100th and 442nd only included one Medal of Honor. Former President Bill Clinton changed that in 2000 when he awarded 22 Medals of Honor to Asian-Pacific Army World War II veterans. The belated medals were

given after the Army reviewed war records and found 22 Soldiers were awarded with the Distinguished Service Cross when they were actually deserving of a Medal of Honor. Nineteen of the 22 were Soldiers in the 100th and 442nd, giving the 442nd

a total of 20 Medals of Honor.

"To fill the shoes of those veterans, takes some good Soldiers," said Tolani Teleso, civilian aide to the secretary of the Army for American Samoa, and a Korean War veteran. He said the current Soldiers of the 100th are also "gung ho" and ready to go.

The Army Reserve Soldiers of the 100th and National Guard Soldiers of the 29th Infantry Brigade have been training together for some time and look forward to deploying together "as a team," Teleso said.

"I believe our whole island community is supporting this," he added.

Stabilization

From A-1

a Soldier may move to another military base:

- * The needs of the Army require the Soldier to move.
- * Leader development -- formerly referred to as professional development -- requirements. This includes education requirements that may last a year or longer, and duty positions not readily available at the Soldier's current post.
- * The Soldier requests a different duty station.

"We think by stabilizing the Army, where we don't move the Army every two to three years on an individual basis, but we keep people in place, develop cohesive, stable units, where spouses can work, where kids can go to school, where people can invest in homes and develop equity, stabilizes forces," Schoomaker told members of the House Armed Services Committee Jan. 28. "It's better for the fighting forces. It's better for the families. And, it will increase our retention."

Divers

From A-1

operations, underwater welding and supervisor training. The first portion of training took place off the coast of Lahaina, Maui, and the second potion took place off the southwestern coast of Oahu.

One of the goals of the exercise is to improve interoperability and increase awareness of each other's army.

Lt. Col. Steven Miles, commander of the 29th Eng. Bn., said the exercise has been "awesome" combined training with the Australians.

"Training with another country like this in such a specialized field is a tremendous experience to learn and leverage interoperabilities for future real-world Global War on Terrorism-type missions," he said.

Patterson said he and his divers relished the opportunity to work with another country.

"I couldn't promote it enough," he said. "Whether it's in Hawaii or somewhere else, just to get in and mingle with another force has been great."

Many of the tasks the divers practiced in Hawaii directly relate to the 7th Dive Detachment's combat mission, according to Capt. Scott Miller, the detachment commander.

Typically, in a harbor clearance or port opening operation, a vessel would be sunk by the enemy, he said. For example, in Desert Storm, some vessels were



Courtesy photo

U.S. and Australian Army divers jump from the back of an Army LSV July 27 off the southern coast of Oahu.

sunk in the Persian Gulf and Army divers used underwater welding and cutting techniques to remove them.

"We weld patches to the vessel and then fill it with air or pump it out to de-water it so it would go to the surface, and it could be dragged out by other vessels" Miller said.

While in Hawaii, the training was strictly focused on underwater welding, deep dive operations and chamber operations because the Australians don't have those capabilities, Miller said

Maj. Gen. William H. Brandenburg, deputy commanding general of U.S. Army, Pacific, visited the training site off the coast of Oahu July 27. After a short ride in a Zodiac boat, Brandenburg boarded an

Army Logistics Support Vessel where the training was taking place.

Brandenburg said it was a great opportunity to train with one of America's best allies and an opportunity for all the divers to practice their combat mission and exchange techniques. The exercise directly relates to USARPAC's overall mission, he added.

"It is part of the theater security cooperation plan," Brandenburg said.

"Australia is a key ally and PACBOND is one of many events that we have across the region, but an important one we've got with the Australians."

The training in Australia will include surface-supplied diving, underwater structure construction and underwater cutting. The 7th Dive Det. is scheduled to return to Hawaii on Aug. 15.

COMMUNITY & SPORTS

Friday

B-1

August 6, 2004

Go beyond the hustle and bustle of the city at ...

Wahiawa Botanical Gardens

The *Heleconia*'s distinctive shape is a beautiful example of Hawaii's unique ecosystem.

Below: This bridge spans the gorge housing to the Wahiawa Botanical Garden.



Story and photos by Spc. Len Cutler
Staff writer

Oahu is easily recognized as the most-developed Hawaiian island. But even here, amid the bustling urban landscape and busy commuters, you can find respite.

Nestled in the heart of Wahiawa, the Wahiawa Botanical Gardens is a verdant hideaway teeming with exotic plants that serves as a compendium of native Hawaiian flora.

Stretching over 27 acres of aggressive terrain, the gardens resemble a tropical rain forest – the greenery is so thick, it's easy to imagine what life on Hawaii must have been like long ago.

In the 1920s, sugar farmers used the garden's site as a sort of hothouse laboratory as a part of the Honolulu Botanical Gardens program. There are five such out-

posts across the island, which are home to several distinctive species, making it a unique opportunity for budding naturalists to catch a glimpse of rare plants.

Admission to the park is free, although guided tours are also available with advance arrangements. As with all rain-forests, the Wahiawa Botanical Garden is home to quite a few insects as well, but planning ahead will prevent visitors from becoming mosquito bait. In addition, the hilly terrain can make the paved walking paths slippery after a rain, so be careful when walking the paths.

Not all the plants are completely benign, so touching or handling the plants is strongly discouraged. Of course, picking or removing plants is strictly prohibited, too.

The Wahiawa Botanical Gardens is located at 1396 California Ave. For more information, or to schedule a tour, call 621-7321.

Left: The *Lehua* flower grows in lava-rich soil.



Above: Stairways connect different paths in the garden, enabling visitors to get a panoramic view of the wildlife below.

Background photo: Red *Lobelias* bloom abundantly throughout the grounds, setting the garden aflame with color each spring.





This Week at the MOVIES

SGT SMITH THEATER

TODAY
Dodgeball:
A True Underdog Story
7 p.m. (PG-13)

SATURDAY AUGUST 7
Dodgeball:
A True Underdog Story
7 p.m. (PG-13)

SUNDAY AUGUST 8
Two Brothers
7 p.m. (PG)

MONDAY AUGUST 9
Closed

TUESDAY AUGUST 10
Closed

WEDNESDAY JULY 11
Closed

THURSDAY JULY 12
Closed

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY
White Chicks
7 p.m. (PG-13)

SATURDAY AUGUST 7
White Chicks
7 p.m. (PG-13)

SUNDAY AUGUST 8
White Chicks
7 p.m. (PG-13)

MONDAY AUGUST 9
Closed

TUESDAY AUGUST 10
Closed

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11
The Notebook
7 p.m. (PG-13)

THURSDAY AUGUST 12
The Notebook
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Floats and Flicks – Floats and Flicks will be held on Aug. 7 at the Helemano pool, movie showing is "Brother Bear" and on Aug. 21 at the Schofield Barracks pool, the movie is "Finding Nemo." Activities for both events begin at 5 p.m. and movies begin at 8 p.m. Enjoy hands-on water activities, contests and prizes, free swim, free hot-dogs, chips and popcorn (while supplies last), air jumpers and lots of fun. Bring beach blankets or mats to enjoy the movie. Call 656-0110 for more information.

Spouse's Night Out – This free adults-only program at Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks is designed to get spouses out of the house every Thursday night from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. to have fun. This Thursday, participate in Stress Management and Self Hypnosis, Art Class: Learn to Draw or Sketch, Create a Family Web Page and Quilting. On Aug. 12, participate in Free Make Over (Make-up and Skin care), Women and Investing, Basic Sewing, Create a Family Web Page and Quilting. MWR Blue Star Card holders will receive free child care from 6 - 9 p.m. by reservation only at Peterson Child Care Center. Call 655-3929 by noon of the Tuesday prior to each Thursday event to make your child care reservations. Child care reservations can be made two weeks in advance. Pre-registration for classes is required, call 655-2736.

Fun Day to Make a Sundae - Cool down and have a free make-your-own sundae with an assortment of toppings on Aug. 14 from 4 - 5 p.m. at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks. Ice cream is courtesy of Meadow Gold Dairies. Don't miss the inflatables, games and contests. Call 655-0002.

August Tropic's Activities - On Aug. 12, Card Games 101 at 4 p.m. Play new and old card games. On Aug. 14, Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. courtesy of Toyriffic. Aug. 19, 4 p.m. Wearable Art Class, we provide the paints, beads and sequins; you bring the attire. Aug. 22, Family Day at the Tropics, 1 - 5 p.m. with Hawaiian crafts and games. On Aug. 28, 11 a.m., build, stack, throw, and design in an Oreo Olympics competition. \$1 entry fee. Jenessa Alexis, is the 12-

year-old who has made and mailed out 92,048 Harms Way 4 Kids bracelets in honor of the troops and their families will be at Tropics making bracelets from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come help her out. Call 655-0002 for more information.

Vehicle Safety Inspections – Bring your car to the MWR Auto Craft Center from the first of the month to the 15th and receive \$2 off the regular price of a vehicle inspection. Non-tinted window \$10, tinted windows cost \$15. Call Fort Shafter at 438-9402 or Schofield Barracks at 655-9368 for information.

Dart Room Now Open – Schofield Barracks Bowling Center's dart room is now open. Come and compete against your friends or just for fun. For more information call 655-0573.

Karaoke at Reggie's –

Join in and sing the night away from 8 - 10 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday at Reggie's, Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$1 per song and order from a special pupu menu and buy ice cold beverages. Call 655-4466 for information.

Na Koa Aina Golf Tournament – Participate in 27 holes of Golf during this benefit golf tournament on Aug. 13, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Leilehua Golf Course. Participants have an opportunity to win more than \$20,000 worth of prizes, to include Mainland trips, inter-island trips, dinners for two, golf clubs and much more. The entry fee is \$115 for active duty, Reservists, National Guard or military retirees. \$125 for DoD employees, and \$135 for individual or corporate persons. All proceeds help to fund a holiday dinner for enlisted Soldiers and their families. Last

year the tournament raised funds to provide 1,300 young families with complete holiday dinners. Completed applications and payments must be made by Aug. 13. For applications visit Leilehua Golf Course or stop by Army Community Service, Building 2091 on Schofield Barracks. Call 655-2400.

Mongolian BBQ – Select from a large variety of meats and vegetables, and have them grilled to personal preferences on Aug. 15 beginning at 5 p.m. at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks with seating at Reggie's. Meals are priced by the ounce. Reservations required by calling 655-0660.

Parent's Night Out – On Aug. 14, from 6 - 11 p.m. drop off the kids at Child and Youth Services and enjoy an evening out. If child is not registered with CYs, a \$15 registration fee

is applicable. Fees for Parent's Night Out are: E-5 and below, \$15 for one child and \$5 each additional child. E-6 and above, \$20 for one child and \$5 for each additional child. Reservations are on a first come first serve basis. Call the registration and referral office for more information: Schofield Barracks 655-5314, AMR 833-5393.

Queen Emma's Summer Palace Tour – View rare artifacts and personal belongings of Hawaii's royalty at Queen Emma's Summer Palace followed by lunch (on your own) and shopping at Aloha Tower marketplace on Aug. 26. Cost is \$3 and includes round trip bus transportation from Tropics on Schofield Barracks. Bus departs from Tropics at 8 a.m. and will return at 2 p.m. Registration is limited to the first forty people, call 655-0002.



HACN TV2 Schedule

August 6 - 12

Morning		Evening	
6:00	Sign on	6:00	Community Focus
6:25	Bulletin Board	6:20	OEF Deployment photo Montage
6:30	Cardio Kickboxing	6:30	Families in Transition
7:00	Fit for Life	7:00	OEF Deployment Ceremony
7:30	Bulletin Board	7:30	OEF Deployment Luau
7:40	Voting 04' Assist Program	7:54	OIF Photo Montage 2
7:42	MG Olson Afghanistan	8:00	Helicopter Introduction
7:50	OIF Photo Montage 6	8:22	MG Olson Afghanistan
8:00	Pentagon Channel	8:48	OIF Photo Montage 5
9:00	Pentagon Channel	9:00	ASAP Smoking Part 1
10:00	Honor to Serve	9:24	Bulletin Board
10:30	VATV	9:30	ASAP Smoking Park 2
11:00	US Army Safety Message	10:00	The History of Army AVN
11:46	OIF Photo Montage 2	10:44	OEF Deployment Photo Montage
11:51	Volcano	11:00	US Army Safety Message
Afternoon		11:50	Oakland Army Base
12:00	Pentagon Channel	12:20	Dash N Grab
2:00	Dash N Grab	12:30	Bulletin Board
2:15	Hurricane Safety		
2:30	ASAP	Overnight	
2:34	Voting 04' Assist Program	12:44	Pentagon Channel
2:40	Shamu-Animal Rescue		
4:00	Pentagon Channel		

Army family housing residents learn the ropes

By Kelli Wilson
Directorate of Public Works

The Directorate of Public Works transferred many of the operations and maintenance of Army Hawaii family housing to the contractor Actus Lend Lease June 1, marking the first step of the housing privatization in Hawaii.

The transition efforts have been flawless so far, thanks in large part to the commitment and collaboration of both parties.

This first step encompasses a transition period from June 1 to Sept. 30, which is known as the sole-source agreement. During this time, residents are learning that they no longer call DPW for work orders or for housing assignments; instead they will call or walk down the street to one of the 13 Actus Lend Lease Community Centers. These community centers will be the link between residents and housing management.

In June, Actus Lend Lease received a 99 percent satisfaction rating from feedback collected from housing customers.



Courtesy photo

Helemano Military Reservation residents Pepper Duckworth and Tabitha Brown get assistance from Christinelee Delos Reyes, a resident services coordinator for Actus Lend Lease. Duckworth and Brown, whose spouses are deployed, visited their community center to get information on signing their leases.

The consensus is that residents are pleased with the quick work order response times, move-in and move-out inspection process, walk through orientations upon move-in, the close proximity and availability of community centers, and the customer service they are receiving.

The positive feedback is encouraging for all involved with the housing project. It is a

“remarkable, first month achievement,” said Gordon Takeshita, DPW project manager for Army family housing.

The sole-source agreement has only offered a taste of privatization, which is scheduled for Oct. 1, or later, and there is much more to come.

Privatization means Actus Lend Lease will begin a 50-year lease, to include the building and renovation of

Army family homes in Hawaii.

The lease agreement provides for the overhaul of traditional maintenance, operations, construction and renovation of homes in favor of a partnership company, comprised of Actus Lend Lease and the Army, with Actus Lend Lease as the managing partner.

Upon privatization, residents can also expect the front and side portions of their lawns to be mowed, an increase in services offered by community centers, a new resident handbook and a variety of other changes.

Residents can do their part to ensure privatization goes smoothly by making sure their lease is signed with Actus Lend Lease no later than Sept.17. Having a signed lease means residents can remain in their home once privatization occurs.

To find out more about privatization or lease signing, visit an Actus Lend Lease community center or log on to www.ArmyHawaiiFamilyHousing.com or call Kelli Wilson at 275-3122.

Residents who sign leases could win prizes

Army Hawaii family housing residents who sign a lease by Oct. 1 to live in on-post homes are eligible to win multiple prizes, in particular gift certificates to shop at the Post Exchange or at Wal-Mart.

More prizes will be added to the drawing, according to Actus Lend Lease officials.

“We really want to give our residents one more good reason to sign their lease,” said Harry Jackson, vice president and asset manager for Actus Lend Lease.

All military residents living in Army Hawaii homes are required to have a signed lease for their home by Oct. 1, the start of privatization.

"We are making a tremendous effort to contact families to get their leases signed so that they can remain in military housing after Oct. 1," Jackson added.

For more information on signing a lease, contact a local community center or visit the Web site at www.armyhawaiiifamilyhousing.com.

“Providing our Army Hawaii family housing residents with additional reasons for signing their leases, such as prize giveaways, is also our way of saying thank you to our residents for choosing to stay in Army homes,” Jackson added. “When they commit to staying in Army Hawaii homes by signing their leases, it is a show of support that makes us work harder to provide them our very best.”

Actus Lend Lease LLC is North America’s largest developer of privatized military housing communities. Although construction of new homes will not begin until early 2005, Actus Lend Lease began a partnership with the Army to bring modern maintenance, property management, construction and renovation to all Army homes on Oahu.

Actus Lend Lease currently is in the middle of a four-month sole-source maintenance and operations agreement with the Army.

Outrigger 5K and 10K Races this Sunday

The Sixth Annual Outrigger, United Services Organization Hawaii 10K and 5K Base Race will be this Sunday on Marine Corps Base, Hawaii at Kaneohe. Individual and team awards will be presented. Team members are also eligible for individual awards. Team competition (5-10 runners) will be limited to the 10K in one of six categories: military, police and fire, corporate, male, female or mixed. The five best times will determine team rank. Mixed teams must have at least one male and one female finish in the top five or be disqualified. This race has been designated as part of the Mid-Pacific Roadrunners Club Championship Series.

- ★Course: 10K (6.2 miles) and 5K (3.1 miles). Race will begin and end near Hangar 101, MCBH.
 - ★Time: 10K and 5K both start at 7 a.m. Timing is provided by Timers Plus.
 - ★Registration: Entry fee is \$20 per person after Aug. 1. Fee is \$15 if running in military formation. Late entries accepted Saturday at packet pickup locations or on Sunday at the race site. T-shirts for entries received after Aug. 1 are not guaranteed. A list of team members must be submitted with team application. All fees are non-refundable.
 - ★Military formations: A formation must consist of at least 25 individuals from the same military organization. No t-shirts for formation registrations received after Aug. 1. Registration must identify the number of runners in the formation and name of representative who will pick up registration packets and shirts. No individual times will be recorded for military runners in formations.
 - ★Packet pick-up: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,this Saturday at The Running Room, 819 Kapahulu Avenue and at "Semper Fit" Fitness Center, Marine Corps Base, Hawaii at Kaneohe and at Schofield Barracks, Martinez Physical Fitness Center from 10a.m. to 1 p.m. Mailed applications received before Aug. 1 will receive a confirmation card. No packets issued without identification or postcard. Race packet will consist of race number, t-shirt, safety pins, and course map. Packets not picked up on Saturday will be available at the sign-in location beginning at 6 a.m. on race day.
 - ★Awards: The top three male and female individuals get awards and also the top three male and females in the following age groups: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80 and older. Also, awards for the top team in each category.
 - ★Post-race activities: Entertainment and refreshments following race, including presentation of awards and random drawings for prizes. Winners must be a finisher and present to win.
- For more information contact USO/Timers Plus, 91-1035-C Ho'omaka Street, Ewa Beach, HI 96706.

Spouse's Spotlight

Twins: Double the trouble; double the blessings

By Sharee Moore
Assistant Editor

For three friends, a passing curiosity about twins became reality. Here are their stories.

Amanda McBride is 19 years old, and she's a newlywed who has been separated from her husband for most of their marriage due to deployments.

She's the mother of eight-month old twin girls and her husband is deployed again, this time to Afghanistan for a year.

Her pregnancy was unexpected, but the McBride's were in for a bigger surprise.

"I went in for my first check up and the nurse practitioner thought I was bigger than I should be so they did an ultrasound," McBride said.

Amanda, who is married to Spc. Cheyenne C. McBride of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, said her husband was good with the newborns.

"I was really nervous around infants. He was really confident and that was nice having him around," McBride said.

Six months after Abigail and Alexis were born, McBride deployed to Afghanistan for a year with the 25th Infantry Division (Light).

"Well, with him gone, the downside is when both girls are crying at the same time,

both need their diapers changed and they're both hungry. I need about six hands, but only have two," she explained.

Cassie Wilson and her husband, Maj. Todd P. Wilson of Headquarters 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt., decided a third child would fit right in with their other two children Olivia, 5, and Cole, 4.

"We weren't getting any younger, so we wanted to try for our third child," explained Wilson.

Thirty-one weeks into the pregnancy, Wilson had to be hospitalized for pre-term labor.

Then, "At 35 weeks my water broke and we thought we were having the babies right away because I was contracting so hard, I couldn't walk up to the labor and delivery ward," Wilson said.

Duke and Luke were born an hour after she arrived at the hospital.

"We never, in a million years, expected to have four children and two are twins, with dad being deployed for a whole year. Everything that happened over the past two years has made us stronger, and a closer husband, wife and family," Wilson said.

How slow does she go with four children in tow?

"We are like a well-lubed machine in our house. I can't do anything spontaneous like just up and go to the beach or out to dinner," said Wilson. That's where the Blue Star Card program



Sharee Moore

Cassie Wilson tends to Cole, 4, while daughter Olivia, 5, plays with her twin brothers, Duke and Luke, 8 months. Wilson, Rogers and McBride are friends, the mothers of twins and their husbands have deployed to Afghanistan for a year.

helps out. It provides eight hours of free child care, per child, each week. Free child care and a part-time nanny also gives her time to train for the 2004 Honolulu Marathon in December.

"I was a runner before three knee surgeries and four children. I think I'm ready to do [a marathon] now!" said Wilson with a chuckle.

Tanya Rogers, a family readiness group leader for Co. A, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. says that having her girls makes the time go by more quickly while waiting for her husband, Staff Sgt. Benjamin Rogers, to return from Afghanistan.

Even though Rogers feels sad knowing her husband

might miss out on the girls' milestones like crawling and walking, she remains optimistic.

"I would have twins again. It's all I know. [My husband] always jokes that if he's ever deployed again, he'll leave me with twin boys," Rogers said while laughing.

Unlike Wilson and McBride, Rogers asked the doctor for two babies – through in vitro fertilization.

"Seven months after we were married, we decided to try [to get pregnant]. These plans were put on hold after a misdiagnosis and other complications," Rogers began.

In vitro fertilization costs



Sharee Moore

(From right) Tanya Rogers and her twins, Aliyanah and Skylar are entertained by Amanda McBride, 19, who sits with her twin girls Abigail (purple) and Alexis. As friends and mothers of twins, Rogers and McBride support each other during the deployment.

\$3,800 whether the procedure results in pregnancy or not. The Rogers' asked the doctor to implant two embryos, instead of one, to increase the likelihood of success.

Thirty-five weeks later, they had fraternal twin girls, Aliyanah and Skylar.

"Me and [McBride] walk three times a week and just talk about how the girls are doing and also just to get out the house. I see some of my friends who don't have kids and can do whatever they want and sometimes I feel jealous, but I wouldn't trade my girls for that," Rogers said.

Wilson is determined to overcome the obstacles a large family and a deployment present.

"This is what I signed up for. Knowing what Todd is doing and knowing where he is, lights a fire under me and makes me do this well, Wilson explained. "I won't spend my life in the house and stay home just because I have twins. I want to be able to do all the things we did before and still have fun."

McBride stays busy with

the support group, Aloha Moms with Multiples, where she met Rogers and Wilson. She also walks one and a half to two miles twice a day.

"The girls love to go on walks," McBride said. "Sometimes, I feel like I'm overwhelmed and I think of Cassie who has the other two [children], on top of the twins, and it helps keep things in perspective," she added.

McBride also relies on the support of her two friends.

"Having them with the same aged twins, the same situation with husbands deployed and Tanya and me having twin girls and it's the first time alone with them," makes this situation easier to deal with, McBride said.

Rogers simply said, "They're double the trouble, but double the blessings."

(Editor's Note: For information about the support group, Aloha Mothers of Multiples, AMOM, call 247-TWIN (8946), e-mail alohaMOMC@yahoo.com or visit their Web site www.amoms.com.)

Responsibility, privilege define pet ownership on USARHAW installations

By Joy Boisselle
Staff Writer

Everyone knows pet ownership is a responsibility, but not everyone knows that on U.S. Army, Hawaii installations, pet ownership is a privilege.

As with all military privileges, pet ownership on post requires adherence to a set of guidelines and regulations that dictate responsible behavior.

The rules outlining owner responsibilities are located in two USARHAW references, 25th Infantry Division (Light) and United States Army Hawaii Regulation 210-8, Discipline, Law, and Order, and Pamphlet 210-5, the Post Information Handbook.

So, what does it all mean? Who do the rules pertain to? What can happen if the rules aren't followed? Is your neighbor a responsible pet owner? More importantly, are you a responsible pet owner?

Lt. Col. Stephen Moniz, Oahu Base Support Battalion commander, defined responsible pet ownership as "caring for your animal, not infringing on your neighbor's quality of life, and cleaning up public areas."

Sounds simple enough in theory, but animal complaints across USARHAW installations are increasing.

What can a person do if they witness violations of the rules? For common complaints not involving safety of people or animals, Catherine Ballie, OBSB operations specialist, advised residents to first try and handle the complaint at the lowest level, or neighbor-to-neighbor.

"If you can't fix the problem at the lowest level, you can try other ways including speaking to your community mayor, residential area officer, or the military police and animal control officer," said Ballie.

Each Army installation has a Residential Area Office staffed with Soldiers whose jobs are to handle housing resident complaints and to monitor resident compliance with the aforementioned regulation and pamphlet.

Sgt. 1st Class Demauro Turner is the NCO in charge of the Schofield Barracks RAO. He said part of his office's job is to enforce, Pamphlet 210-5.

"We make on-the-spot corrections and write citations, but our primary focus is to act as an information center to help residents follow the rules," he said.

Turner emphasized that not every pet situation results in a written citation. Depending on the complaint, some own-



Joy Boisselle

Responsible pet owner, Leslie Cheek, walks Maggie using voice and leash control. When outside, pet owners must supervise their animals using two means of control.

ers are advised of their violation first verbally. If the situation is not resolved or escalates, RA personnel will then issue citations.

One area of confusion is control of pets. According to Turner, pets must be under two means of control at all times.

For example, a pet on a leash and under owner voice control or a dog fenced in a back yard and leashed or chained are considered two means of control. Not considered two means of control are a dog chained in an unfenced or penned yard or a pet under voice control, but not leashed.

Turner also said, "Residents need to understand that the pet regulations regarding control and leashes apply to cats as well."

Serious incidents such as those involving animal attacks on people or other animals require military police notification. Military Police file formal reports that are forwarded to the OBSB Community Compliance Section for action. The OBSB staff reviews the report, and makes recommendations to the OBSB commander for action.

Possible actions for complaints include administrative and punitive measures as well as impoundment or removal of the pet, permanent command-directed pet removal from the

installation, or loss of all pet privileges on Army installations. Moniz said, "Each complaint is looked at individually on a case-by-case basis and rarely would a 'one strike and your out' situation occur."

Clarifying further, he said once a pet owner receives a non-compliance notice, they are given plenty of time and opportunity to comply with the rules. However, Moniz emphasized, "Repeated or drastic violations will result in the loss of pet privileges on the installation."

According to Schofield Barracks Animal Control Officer, Joseph Lawrence, the number one complaint he responds to is excessive noise complaints involving dogs.

He also routinely responds to neglect calls, loose and stray animal reports, wild animal incidents, and nuisance calls among others. If Lawrence must remove an animal from a residence or catches a stray or loose animal (even with a collar), he transports the animal to the Hawaii Humane Society in Honolulu.

"When I receive any complaint, usually from the military police, I respond by checking out the situation, including the health, welfare, and safety of the pet involved," he said.

"I also advise the owners on the proper care of their animal." In all cases, Lawrence checks to ensure the animal is properly registered.

There are always two sides to every story and pet owners have rights as well. Once the base support commander takes action, the pet owner can appeal the decision in writing. Appeals should include extenuating circumstances and other information relevant to the incident. The OBSB commander has final say on appeals.

Every pet owner residing in on-post quarters must comply with the guidelines set forth in the two references above.

"Responsible pet ownership" is not just a phrase heard at town hall meetings, on Animal Planet, and in veterinary clinics, but a real code of conduct complete with regulations and guidelines governing pet ownership on USARHAW installations.

The bottom line is if you abuse it, you lose it.

(Editor's Note: 25th Infantry Division (Light) and USARHAW Pamphlet 210-5, Post Information Handbook can be found Online at www.25idl.army.mil/post%20information/pam210-5.pdf.)

Guide to Responsible Pet Ownership on USARHAW Installations

- Owners must register dogs and cats more than three-months old at the nearest veterinary treatment facility.

- Dogs and cats must have rabies vaccinations.

- No more than two pets are authorized per household unless authorized in writing by the base support commander. This does not apply to fish.

- Owners must have dogs and cats vaccinated annually against canine and feline specific diseases, such as parvo and distemper for dogs, and pan-leukopenia and rhinotracheitis for cats.

- Owners are responsible for the security, care, and behavior of their pets.

- Owners must control their pets to prevent damage to property, annoying neighbors, or causing injury to people or other animals.

- Outdoor pets unsupervised must be penned and leashed.

- Leashed pets must be supervised at all times.

- Dogs must wear county-issued metal dog tags and post rabies tags. Cats must wear post rabies tags.

- Electrical fences are prohibited.

- Owners will not abuse or neglect their pets.

- Owners will arrange care for pets if they will be away from the home longer than one day. Storage and laundry rooms will not be used to house pets.

- Only domestic household animals are authorized in quarters. These include cats, dogs, fish, rabbits, and caged birds.

- Uncontrolled pets will be impounded and owners cited for failure to comply with regulations. This includes unleashed and unregistered animals.

- Impounded animals are held at the Halawa Quarantine Station.

- Biting or scratching incidents require an incident report filed through MP channels. Animals are held for 10-day quarantine at the residence or at the VTF.

- Owners must pick up, bag and dispose of animal feces.

Operation Shoe Fly brings shoes, hope to children in Afghanistan

By Joy Boisselle
Staff Writer

Big events make headlines and get attention. Small happenings often go quietly by, seldom mentioned. Thus it is with Operation Shoe Fly, a small, simple effort to make a difference in Afghanistan one child and two shoes at a time.

Operation Shoe Fly is a humanitarian effort by Soldiers and families of Company B, 214th Aviation Regiment Hillclimbers that deployed to Afghanistan in March. Spearheaded by 1st Sgt. Jim Thomson, Operation Shoe Fly started as a home-grown idea by a small Army unit that mushroomed into a program that now boasts local and national support.

“OPSF is the culmination of an idea born by a group of CH47 [Chinook] crew members in support of Operation Enduring Freedom,” Thomson said.

Noticing that many children were shoeless, Thomson and his “crewdogs” debated how best to help them and Operation Shoe Fly was born.

The company’s motto “helping to bring the hearts of America to the soles of Afghanistan,” poetically describes the task undertaken by the Hillclimbers.

Thomson’s letter asking others for assistance grew out of his own personal experiences. The father of four young boys, he said, “I started thinking about how quickly they outgrow shoes that end up in a pile in the garage and really are still in great shape.” Reasoning that across the country, others share the same surplus of shoes, Thomson reached out with the letter that has launched the collection of 2,000 pairs of shoes and counting.

“The idea of course, is that there must be many like piles in garages across America and here I am in a country struggling to find itself and stand on its own, barefooted,” he said. Based on the overwhelming response to OPSF, Thomson’s assessment appears to be correct.

His motivation is simple.

“As a father, there is nothing you can do that would gain my appreciation more than to help my child. Providing these innocent children with shoes, a tangible improvement to their quality of life, just might help in the long run in gaining the trust of their



Courtesy Photo

First Sgt. Jim Thomson, Co. B, 214th Avn. Rgt., is surrounded by shoes received from across the United States. Operation Shoe Fly has received more than 2,000 pairs of shoes for Afghani children since June 2004.

parents.”

Thomson’s letter reached many through the Internet, 25th Aviation veteran’s associations, family readiness group newsletters, FOX news, and word of mouth. “This is certainly a grassroots operation with families, church groups, Boy and Girl Scout troops, and employees from all kinds of organizations getting together and gathering up shoes and sending them our way,” he wrote, reflecting surprise in his response.

Oahu residents, Stein Rafto and EJ Reid, typify OPSF’s grassroots character. Rafto assigned his children, Sierra, 14, Savanna, 9, and Sheaffer, 7, a summer service project – collect shoes for OPSF. More than 200 pairs of shoes later, the Rafto children have a real story to tell as they return to school. EJ Reid collected 130 pairs of shoes and plans to use OPSF as his project to attain Eagle Scout, Boy Scouting’s highest level.

A humble man, Thomson credits everyone but himself for the ongoing success of OPSF. Reserving his highest praise for his wife, Jen, he wrote, “My beautiful bride, a full-time mother to our four boys, a full-time university student, and co-leader of our unit’s family readiness group has helped Operation Shoe Fly tremendously though I don’t know where she finds the time.”

At home, Jen Thomson and Mandy Dimon, co-leaders of the FRG, work with the rear detachment commander, Capt. Ryan

Purdy, to organize, separate, clean, box, and ship donations collected from across the island. “We didn’t realize how big it would get and we are preparing to send out the first unit shipment of shoes now,” said Purdy.

Shipping from Hawaii is the biggest issue according to Purdy. “Shipping can run anywhere from \$50 to \$200 for a large box of shoes,” he said, adding, “We are looking at ways to decrease the costs through donations of services by civilian airline carriers.”

As for the influence on Afghanistan, Purdy explained, “Operation Shoe Fly is definitely impacting on the Afghani perceptions of Americans and especially of our Soldiers. They are able to see us more then just men and women with guns.”

Thomson, when asked about the effect of Operation Shoe Fly on himself and his fellow Soldiers, replied, “For the Soldiers and me, it touches our hearts to bring a little joy into the lives of these young people, the future of Afghanistan, who know only struggle and poverty and war. It gives us hope that they may indeed grow up to know a better world in which to live.”

Concluding the interview by once again praising others, Thomson wrote, “Please know that you have touched the lives of these children in ways no others have. I am humbled to be associated with such wonderful, compassionate people from across the country, and especially from across Hawaii. Thank you.”

Donations can be sent to Afghanistan in three ways: directly, at Operation Shoe Fly, Humanitarian Assistance, CJTF76 CJ9, APO AE 09354 or through the humanitarian organizations, Globus Relief Fund (OPSF), c/o Angels for Afghanistan, 1775 West 1500 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84104 or Bridgepoint Systems (OPSF), c/o Operation Give, 542 West Confluence Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah 84123.

Once the shoes arrive in Afghanistan, Thomson and the Hillclimbers take care of the rest.

(Editor’s Note: For more information, contact Jen Thomson at thomsonj001@hawaii.rr.com or Capt. Ryan Purdy at 656-0130 or e-mail ryan.purdy@schofield.army.mil. The Web site is www.operationshoefly.com,)

CYS celebrates National Kid’s Day

By Kathy Giannetti
Leisure Activities Director

More than 500 participants attended the Child and Youth Services celebration of National Kids Day Hawaii 2004 July 31at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks.

Kids of all ages participated in Character Counts, Start Smart and Art Adventures activities.

Character Counts activities emphasized the six pillars of character: citizenship, caring, respect, leadership, trustworthiness and responsibility. Start Smart activities focused on ball handling, coordination and teamwork. Participants played volleyball and tried their skill at the basketball shootout.

“I loved the games because they were fun and I learned some stuff,” said 9-year-old Victoria Morris. Dustin Morris, 11, said, “ I liked the video games and the different things to do.”

Art Adventures concentrated on fine motor skills. The children made clay sculptures and paper bag pals. Many visited the community agency booths and watched karate and gymnastics demonstrations, a teen fashion show, played in air jumpers and petted Sparky the Fire Dog.

Brandi Necochea, whose husband is with 3rd Squadron, 4th Calvary Regiment, said with enthusiasm, “all the activities were fun and creative for the children, and the pizza at Tropics was great.”

Educational community booths included the Humane Society, Recycling, ASACS, Sgt. Yano Library, Exceptional Family Member Program, Community Health, and Child and Youth Services.

The NKDH activities will also be conducted at Floats and Flicks Saturday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at Helemano Physical Fitness Center and Pool. All activities are free. The movie, "Brother Bear" will be shown on a large screen in the park across the street at 8 p.m. Eat free hot dogs, chips, popcorn and drinks while supplies last. For more information, call 655-0110.